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- Between spring and 27 December 1951 more than 18,000 seriously wounded officers and men had been brought from the Korean front to various hospitals in Harbin for treatment. By 27 December more than 12,000 remained in the city. The authorities recently had decided to select from those whose convalescence was almost complete and those whose injuries were minor, 5,000 men to be given military and thought training for a short period, then returned to the Korean front to fight. Similar steps were allegedly being taken in hospitals in Changchou, Mukden and Tsitsihar. The numbers involved in those cities were not known.
- Soldiers at the Korean front who received minor injuries were normally treated by front-line first aid posts. Those who were seriously wounded were brought back to field hospitals in the Northeast. In December the more than ten large field hospitals in the Northeast Military Command were at Mukden, Antung, Chinchou, Ssupingchieh, Yunchi (126-32, 43-51), Changchun, Kiren, Lungchiang (123-57, 47-22) and Harbin. Each had a capacity of 30,000 men, but because of the shortage of physicians, nurses and medicines and the huge numbers of wounded the death rate was very high. Each patient could have his dressing changed only once every three days.
- During the summer of 1951 the Central Government sent a group of nurses from intramural China¹ to work in the hospitals, but they were still too few. For example, the eight field hospitals² at one time had over 2,400 patients, but since the staff consisted of 152 doctors and a little over 320 nurses there was an average of one doctor to 160 patients and one nurse to 80 patients. In November 1951 it was reported that the Central Health Ministry had recruited 5,000 nurses from intramural China for detailing to the various Manchurian hospitals, but none had arrived in Harbin by the end of December.

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- 2 -

25X1 1. Comment. China excluding Manchuria.

25X1 2. Comment. In view of the statement that each of the over ten large field hospitals had a capacity of 30,000 men, this reference possibly should have been the 8 Field Hospital instead of 8 hospitals.

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